

I want to recognize, if I might, just one of the scholars who's here. We could recognize many. But I wanted to mention one, not because she deserves to be mentioned over the rest of you but because everybody here and everyone within the sound of my voice needs to get the flavor of the extraordinary quality and character of the young men and women we honor today. Jessica Luterman, of Staples High School in Westport, Connecticut, organized a portable art therapy program for geriatric patients called Art On Wheels, which is now permanent. She did this while being an all-State athlete, a member of the All-USA Academic First Team, serving on the boards of her YWCA and the United Way. That's what we need more of in America. Stand up, Jessica. Where are you? Stand up. Give her a hand. *[Applause]*

Like I said, if you all would just remember what got you here today and commit yourselves to trying to communicate that to the rest of this country, our future is in good hands.

Congratulations, and God bless you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:11 p.m. on the South Lawn at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Barbara Holt, Acting Chair of the White House Commission on Presidential Scholars. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting the Report on Future Free Trade Area Negotiations

July 1, 1994

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In accordance with section 108(b)(4) of the North American Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act (Public Law 103-182; 107 Stat. 2067), I transmit herewith the report containing recommendations on future free trade area negotiations.

Sincerely,

William J. Clinton

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Daniel Patrick Moynihan, chairman, Senate Committee on Finance, and Sam Gibbons, acting chairman, House Ways and Means Committee. This letter was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

The President's Radio Address

July 2, 1994

Good morning. On Monday, July 4th, we celebrate America's birth. Two hundred-eighteen years ago, our Founding Fathers pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor to the untested idea of liberty, equality, and democracy.

Those ideas have survived and thrived because they're at the heart of the only system of government we know that produces wisdom from debate and consensus from division. Indeed right now, we're seeing how our democratic process can produce results that constantly renew the pledges of our Founders, and we're making substantial progress.

I sought the Presidency because our economy was in trouble and because our Government wasn't working. We put in place an economic plan designed to restore the middle class and guarantee growth and jobs by cutting over \$250 billion in spending; reducing over 250,000 Government positions; offering tax cuts to 15 million working families, 90 percent of our small businesses, and increases to about 1.5 percent of our people to ask them to help pay down the deficit.

The result has been a remarkable recovery: 3 million jobs, a 1.7 percent drop in unemployment, 3 years of deficit reduction in a row for the first time since Harry Truman was President of the United States. But the agenda for change requires more. It requires us to empower the people of the United States to do well in a world filled with change and competition.

That's at the heart of the crime bill we're about to pass in Congress that will put 100,000 police officers on the street, enact a law that says, "Three strikes and you're out," ban assault weapons that go with the Brady bill, and at the heart of our efforts, to reform the college loan program to make interest rates lower and repayment terms better so that no young person will ever not go to college because of the cost of a college education. We're going to make 20 million young college graduates eligible for these better repayment terms and issue \$1 billion of college loans next year under the better terms.